

January 2025

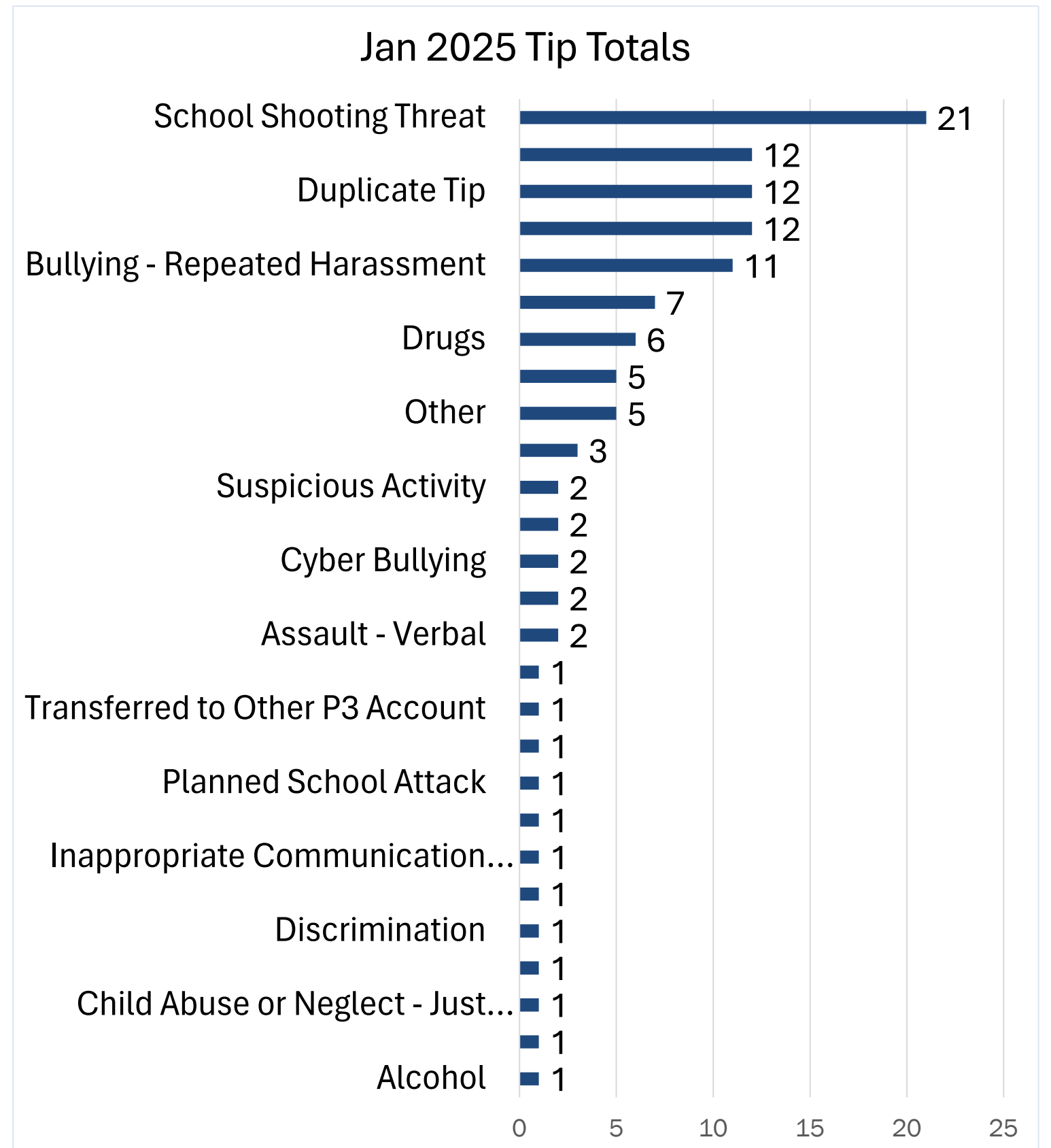
COURAGE2REPORT

Monthly Activity Summary

Tip Summary

JANUARY 2025

- 116 Incidents
- Most Common Type > School Shooting Threats (21)
- Busiest Day > Thursday (32)
- Mode of Submission > PC Web Browser (43)
- Peak Reporting Time > 8:00 PM-9:00 PM (21 tips)



Comparison: January 2024 & January 2025

Key Highlights:

- School Shooting Threats increased from 12 in January 2024 to 21 in January 2025.
- Bullying reports dropped significantly from 20 to 11.
- We've seen a rise in Drug-Related Incidents, from 1 to 6.
- Sexual Offenses and Threats to Kill both rose, as well:
 - Sexual Offenses 2 to 5
 - Threats to Kill 10 to 12
- Assaults
 - Physical Assaults increased from 10 to 12
 - Verbal Assaults decreased from 3 to 2

We processed 35
HandleWithCare
notifications
to schools throughout the
month.

Overall, the total number of tips increased from 108 in January 2024 to 116 in January 2025, indicating a 7.41% increase in reported incidents. This could be a sign of a higher awareness and willingness to report incidents. These changes underscore the need for ongoing vigilance and targeted interventions to address school safety concerns effectively.

C2R Awareness

This information is provided by reporters who chose to provide the additional information when submitting a tip; it is not a required field. This 35% response rate provides a sample worth exploring with marketing and promotional opportunities.

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Word of Mouth (16) | 4. Flyer /Poster (3) |
| 2. Internet (14) | 5. Public Service |
| 3. Law Enforcement (6) | Announcement (2) |



Gen Z seeks safety above all else as the generation grows up amid constant crisis and existential threat

Published: January 30, 2025 8:47am EST

The article discusses how years of partisan politics and divisive language have created an environment of fear and uncertainty, impacting young people's emotional well-being. **A survey of 1,644 U.S. adolescents revealed that safety is their top priority, surpassing traditional teenage goals like popularity and fun.** The constant exposure to crises such as school shootings, climate change, financial instability, and the pandemic has heightened their sense of danger, despite data showing that life is generally safer now. Adolescence is a critical period for brain development, making young people especially vulnerable to fear-driven messaging prevalent in media and political rhetoric. This has implications for their mental health, with increased rates of anxiety and depression. Historical events have shown that generational experiences shape worldviews, and today's youth, growing up amid compounded global crises, will likely carry these fears into adulthood, influencing their decision-making and collective identity. **Despite these challenges, adolescents still value qualities like kindness and community, indicating a duality in their aspirations.** The article calls for a broader societal understanding of the factors shaping adolescent development and the need for research to support their well-being. [Click here to read the full article.](#)



It lurks everywhere: Gen Z's perception of danger is further shaped by events like the recent fires devastating Los Angeles. Agustin Paullier/AFP via Getty Images



Teens on social media: Red, blue and purple states are all passing laws to restrict and protect adolescents

Published: January 31, 2025 8:55am EST

This article highlights how many U.S. states are passing laws to regulate and protect children's and teens' use of social media. In 2024, about half of the states enacted over 50 bills to ensure supervised online activity for minors. These laws include requiring parental consent for social media use, banning targeted marketing, and recognizing child influencers as workers. States like California, Utah, and Florida have introduced measures to limit data collection, verify age, and protect minors from targeted ads.

- Almost [half of teens ages 13 to 17](#) said in 2024 they are “almost constantly” online and virtually all of them use the internet every day.
- Approximately 40% of children ages 8 to 12 [use social media](#) on a daily basis.
- Research shows that adolescents who spend more than three hours a day on social media have an [increased risk of anxiety and depression](#).
- Almost half of teens have [faced online bullying or harassment](#), with older teen girls most likely to have experienced this. Social media use has been linked to [self-harm in some cases](#).

[Click here to read the full article.](#)



The New York Times

As School Threats Proliferate, More Than 700 Students Are Arrested

The number of threats after a Georgia school shooting this month is much higher than usual, many officials said. In response, some have cracked down with arrests and detention for children as young as 10.

By: Troy Closson and Shaila Dewan

Published Sept. 25, 2024

Updated Sept. 26, 2024



People attended a vigil for the Apalachee High School shooting victims in Winder, Ga. In Georgia, 98 students across 56 counties were taken into custody after making threats following the Sept. 4 attack.

This article from the New York Times discusses the aftermath of the deadliest school shooting in Georgia's history at Apalachee High School, where two teachers and two students were killed. **Since the incident, over 700 children and teenagers across at least 45 states have been arrested for making violent threats against schools.** The wave of threats has terrified students and parents, disrupted school attendance, and forced the closure of many campuses. Experts note an increase in threats following high-profile shootings and at the start of the school year, which has been exacerbated this fall.

Law enforcement and schools are overwhelmed with investigating these threats, many of which are unfounded. The proliferation of threats is partly driven by social media, with posts being reshared and spreading across platforms. The police must fully investigate every threat, leading to frustrations and exhaustion among law enforcement agencies.

Some experts attribute the rise in threats to the lasting effects of the pandemic, social media, and exposure to high-profile violence. There are concerns about the police's response to these threats, especially the arrest of many children, which could damage trust and have long-term negative effects on the students' futures.

Experts also stress the importance of addressing underlying emotional issues and providing counseling and mental health services to students. Schools are struggling with understaffing and lack of funding to adequately support the growing number of children in need. The article also highlights the complexity of the issue and the need for a nuanced approach to handling school threats.

[Click here to read the article.](#)

WHERE WE'VE BEEN, WHERE WE'RE GOING!

Past:

- 1/3/2025: Franklin Co. R-II New Haven Teacher Presentation
- 1/28/2025: Franklin Co. R-II New Haven Student Presentation
- 2/4/2025: Rockwood R-VI Administration Presentation
- 2/5/2025: Columbia CES Academy Training
- 2/14/2025 : Troy Eastern MO Administration Presentation

Future:

- 3/3-3/4/2025: Columbia CES BTAM Conference
- 3/13/2025: Lake of the Ozarks CIT Conference
- 4/9-4/10/2025: MSHP Troop I Career Fair





BEHAVIORAL THREAT ASSESSMENT SUMMIT

Behavioral Threat Assessment Training is a proven prevention strategy for school safety.

MARCH 3 - 4, 2025 | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

STONEY CREEK HOTEL, COLUMBIA, MO

2601 S Providence Rd, Columbia, MO 65203

MSBA Member District \$99 per attendee; Non-Member District \$119 per attendee
Registration cost includes materials and lunch



Averting Targeted School Violence

Ed Oslica, U.S. Secret Service, discusses school violence prevention and threat detection.



Community Threat Assessment

Dr. Gene Deisinger covers community-based threat assessment and its role in school safety.



Charting a Defensible Path to School Safety

Dr. Bruno Dias addresses theories of K-12 shootings and ways to prevent violence.



Extreme Overvalued Beliefs

Dr. Tahir Rahman discusses cognitive drivers of violence and proper threat management.



Perry Iowa School Shooting

A discussion on lessons from a 2024 school shooting with Superintendent Clark Wicks, School Board President Linda Andorf, Principal Brad Snowgren and educator Dr. Mandy Ross.

Understanding Online Domestic Extremism

Targeting Youth and Children An FBI Intelligence Analyst covers concerning online trends.



Threats and Small Children

Dr. Stephanie Leite explores challenges in identifying threats among young children and autism's role in threat assessments.



I Was Almost a School Shooter

Aaron Stark shares his personal story to promote mental wellness and prevent violence.



The Operational Advantages of Forging Strong Relationships Between Mental Health Professionals and Law Enforcement Involved in BTAM Work

Dr. Cherylynn Lee highlights the value of collaboration in threat management.



Translating Research into School Violence Prevention

Madison Edge Almond and Renn Jackson discuss research findings on threat assessment in schools.



Language Evidence in Targeted Violence

Julia Kupper introduces "Tactical Linguistics," analyzing language in preventing violent threats.

Intel Analysis/Scenario The FBI discusses techniques to avoid bias in threat assessment.

Threat Assessment Panel Experts discuss threat assessment best practices in schools and communities.

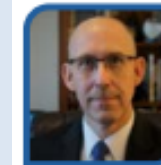
Register on the MSBA Portal at MOSBA.ORG

Email registration@mosba.org or call 573-445-9920.

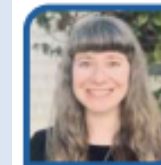
Contact Glen Moore, moore@mosba.org, 573-208-7864

Join us at CES's BHTA conference!

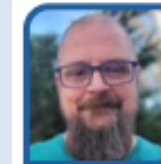
Nothing is more important than keeping our kids and communities safe. Missouri School Boards' Association's Center for Education Safety (CES) will host a two-day summit for K-12 school leadership teams to learn from several of the world's leading experts in school safety. The strategies you'll walk away with are both practiced and supported by national law enforcement authorities such as the FBI.



Dr. Gene Deisinger specializes in operational psychology, protective intelligence, and behavioral threat assessment & management and was appointed by the U.S. Department of Justice to serve as a subject matter expert on the mass casualty incident at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, TX.



Julia Kupper has a unique skill set that allows her to combine traditional violence prevention with linguistics—the science of language—and devise proactive measures to enhance national security and public safety efforts.



Aaron Stark was almost a school shooter. Today he presents to law enforcement agencies in hopes of improving methods and techniques when dealing with those in the edge of darkness.



Dr. Stephanie Leite is the principal at Forensic Intelligence, LLC and has worked with high-risk children, adolescents, and adults for over 25 years, focusing on the prevention of violence.

Registration: [Register on the MSBA Portal at MOSBA.ORG](https://mosba.org) or by email registration@mosba.org or call 573-44-9920.

Hotel Accommodations: Contact Stoney Creek Hotel directly for room reservations: 573-442-6400

Rooms are \$95/night. Please use group code **25MSBABHS** when reserving your room. Reservations must be made before **February 21, 2025**.

Who Does This Training Apply To?

- District Administration
- District and School Safety Coordinators
- Principals and Assistant Principals
- Counselors and Social workers
- Teachers (General Education & Electives)
- Special Education Directors, & Coaches
- Law Enforcement/First Responders
- School Resource Officers
- Human Resources and Paraprofessionals
- Home School Communicators
- Any school leader who may be tasked to be on the Behavioral Threat Assessment Team

What Will You Take Away From This Training?

- Interact with the nation's foremost experts in behavioral threat management.
- Warning signs—what should be on your radar?
- Knowledge of the current landscape in behavioral threat assessment.
- Tools to avoid overreaction and underreaction when dealing with concerning situations.
- Data tracking through lens of accountability & equitability.
- A plan and confidence! You will have a process to take back to your district on how to track, report and respond to threats.

School Safety Information

For information about the summit or school safety contact Glen Moore at 573-208-7864.

Resources

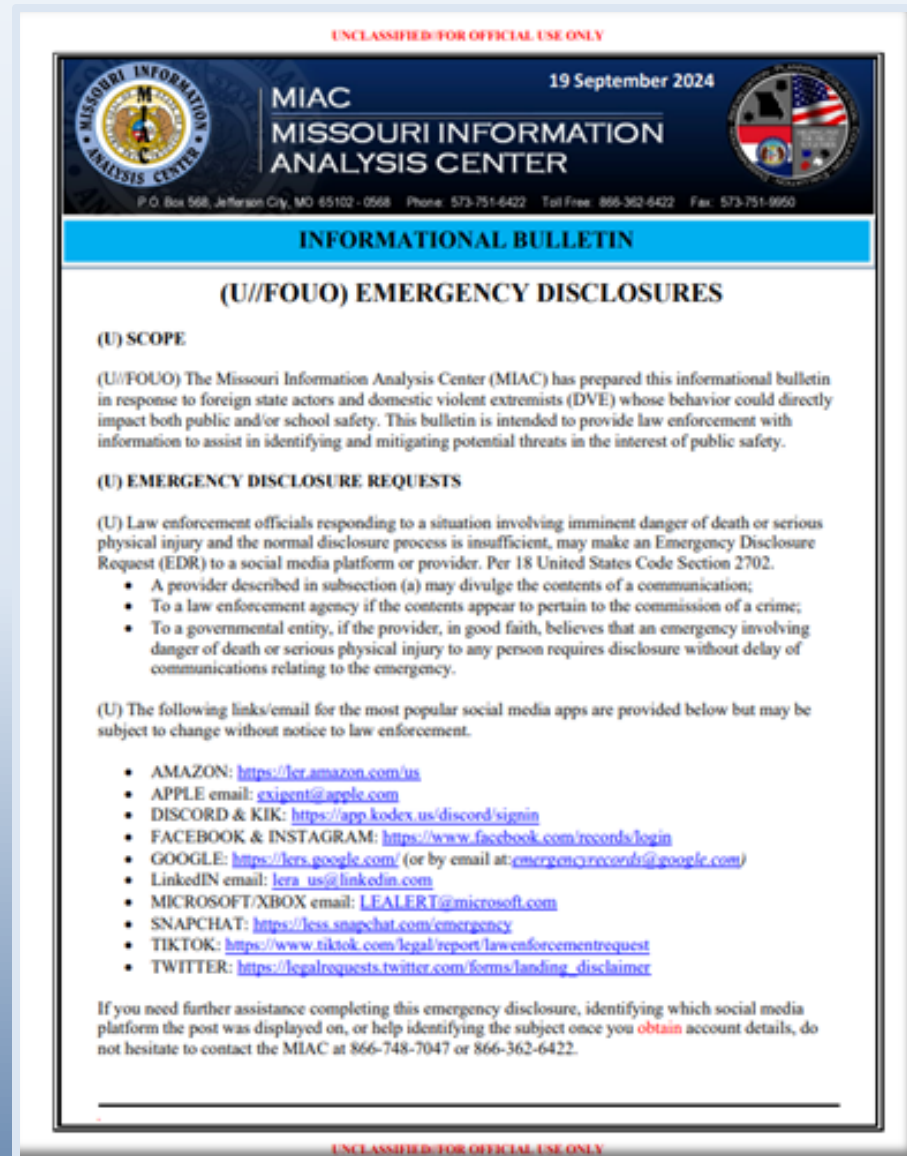


America's Cyber Defense Agency
NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AND RESILIENCE

Please see below for resources and programs relevant to assessing and responding to anonymous threats of violence in the K-12 environment:

- [Anonymized Threat Response Guidance: A Toolkit for K-12 Schools](#)
- [Averting Targeted School Violence: A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Plots Against Schools](#)
- [Bombing Prevention Assistance for K-12 Schools](#)
- [Enhancing School Safety Using a Threat Assessment Model: An Operational Guide for Preventing Targeted School Violence](#)
- [Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans](#)
- [K-12 Bystander Reporting Toolkit](#)
- [National Network of Fusion Centers Fact Sheet](#)
- [Protecting America's Schools: A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Targeted School Violence](#)
- [Resources for Swatting and Hoax Threats](#)
- [School Safety Communications Planning Guide](#)
- [Social Media Threat Guidance for School Staff and Authorities Infographic](#)
- [Tabletop Exercise Packages](#)

Resources



The Missouri Information Analysis Center (MIAC) has taken proactive steps by preparing an informational bulletin to assist law enforcement in identifying and mitigating threats to public and school safety.



For access to the Emergency Disclosure Request Guide and Preservation Request Template, contact Courage2Report:
courage2reportmo@mshp.dps.mo.gov
866-748-7047
MIAC: 866-362-6422

Remember, it's crucial to report all social media threats to **Courage2Report and your local law enforcement!** This helps track trends and ensures threats are thoroughly investigated. As always, treat all threats as real until they are fully vetted.

Also, it's important to remind students and parents to report **and not repost!** This can prevent the spread of fear and misinformation.

Want promotional items for your school?

Items we have available:

Brochures

Bookmarks

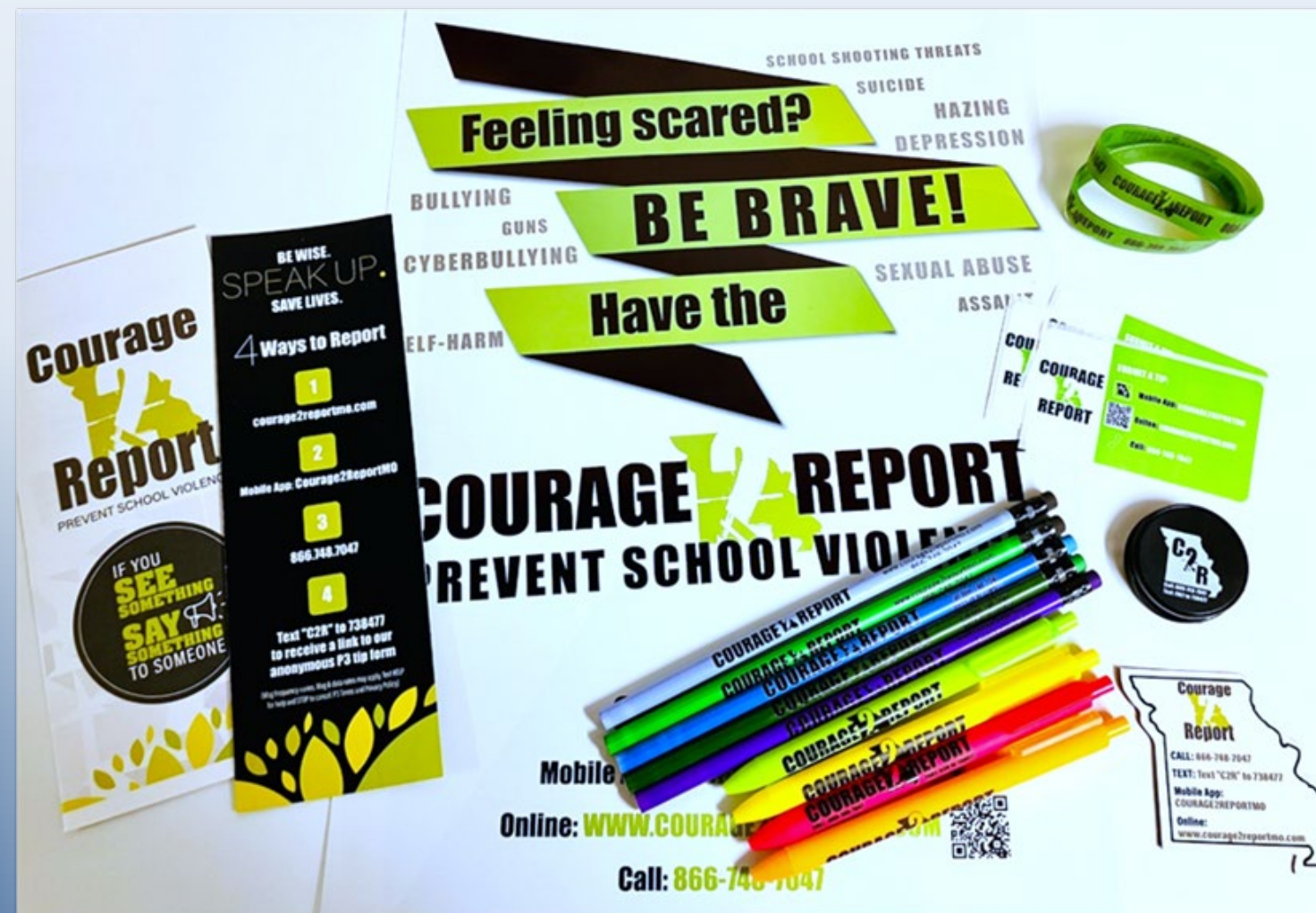
Pencils

Magnets

Waterproof stickers

Posters in English and

Spanish




Click here for the
promotional items order
form.

These items are free to
you. We also ship them
at no cost.


Contact Us


Missouri State Highway Patrol
MIAC Administrative Line: 866-362-6422
Email: courage2reportmo@mshp.dps.mo.gov
Website: www.courage2reportmo.com

Ways to report:

 1-866-748-7047

 Online

 Mobile App

 Text C2R to 738477

